



BIOGRAPHY

UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

COLONEL RICHARD J. EVANS III

Colonel Richard (Rick) J. Evans III is Commander, 155th Air Refueling Wing at the Lincoln Municipal Airport, Nebraska. The wing provides global reach airpower and deploys expeditionary forces in support of worldwide combat, contingency and humanitarian requirements. The wing operates nine KC-135R aircraft performing air refueling, airlift and aeromedical evacuation missions supporting U.S. and coalition contingency operations and the U.S. Strategic Command strategic deterrence mission. Col Evans commands more than 900 full-time and traditional Guard Airmen. The 155th Air Refueling Wing is the host wing for several Army National Guard units and it provides support to the Nebraska Air National Guard's 170th Group at Offutt AFB and Joint Force Headquarters, Nebraska, based in downtown Lincoln.



Colonel Evans entered the Air National Guard in 1984 as a Distinguished Graduate from the Air National Guard Academy of Military Science (officer training) at McGhee Tyson ANGB, Tennessee. After completing Undergraduate Navigator Training and RF-4C Initial Qualification Training, he served as a Traditional Guard (part-time) Squadron Weapon Systems Officer, Instructor and Weapons and Tactics Officer with the Nebraska ANG's 173rd Tactical Reconnaissance Squadron in Lincoln. In 1990, he accepted a full-time position with the unit and was assigned as the Chief of Operations Plans for the 155th Reconnaissance Group, where he oversaw employment planning for the unit's tactical reconnaissance mission. In 1993, he served as the unit's Operations Conversion Project Officer, planning all aspects of the transition from the RF-4C reconnaissance mission to the KC-135R air refueling mission. From 1994 until 2002, he served as the 155th Air Refueling Wing's Chief of Current Operations, where he was responsible for planning and coordinating worldwide employment of the unit's nine KC-135R aircraft in support of the USAF's Global Reach mission. In 2002 he was reassigned to Offutt AFB, Nebraska to lead the Offutt AFB Total Force Integration initiative, which integrated Air National Guard members into the 55th Wing, Air Combat Command's largest flying wing. The organization started as a Detachment, became a Squadron in 2005 and a Group in 2007. Air Guard personnel are operationally integrated into the active duty 55th Operations Group, providing training and operational support to worldwide C2ISR and treaty verification operations.

Colonel Evans also serves as a Legislative Liaison and is a member of the Nebraska National Guard Board of Directors. He is the Chair of the ANG's Space, Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance and Information Operations Weapon Systems Council and is a member of the ANG's Air Directorate Field Advisory Council (ADFAC). He has commanded at the Detachment, Squadron, Group and Wing-levels and participated in many combat and contingency operations including Uphold Democracy, Decisive Endeavor, Deliberate Guard, Deliberate Forge, Allied Force, Southern Watch, Northern Watch, Noble Eagle, Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom.

EDUCATION

1984 Bachelor of science in business administration, University of Nebraska-Omaha
1988 U.S. Air Force Fighter Weapons School, Gowen Field, Boise, Idaho
1989 Squadron Officer School, Correspondence Course
1999 Air Command and Staff College, Correspondence Course
2003 Air War College, Correspondence Course

ASSIGNMENTS

1. December 1984 - August 1985, student, Undergraduate Navigator Training and Tactical Navigation Training, Mather AFB, Calif.
2. August 1985 - May 1986, student, RF-4C Replacement Training Unit, 189th Tactical Reconnaissance Training Flight, Gowen Field, Boise, Idaho
3. May 1986 - August 1988, RF-4C weapon systems officer and instructor WSO, 173rd Tactical Reconnaissance Squadron, Lincoln ANGB, Nebraska
4. August 1988 - December 1988, student, USAF Fighter Weapons School, RF-4C Fighter Weapons Instructor Course, 190th Tactical Reconnaissance Group, Gowen Field, Boise, Idaho
5. December 1988 - December 1990, RF-4C weapons and tactics officer, 173rd Tactical Reconnaissance Squadron, Lincoln ANGB, Nebraska
6. December 1990 - August 1993, RF-4C evaluator WSO and Chief of Operations Plans, 155th Reconnaissance Group, Lincoln ANGB, Nebraska
7. August 1993 - December 1993, student, KC-135R Combat Crew Training School, Castle AFB, Calif.
8. December 1993 - July 1999, KC-135R evaluator navigator and Chief of Current Operations, 155th Operations Group, Lincoln ANGB, Nebraska
9. July 1999 - July 2000, Director of Personnel, 155th Air Refueling Wing, Lincoln ANGB, Nebraska
10. July 2000 - July 2002, KC-135R evaluator navigator and Chief of Current Operations, 155th Operations Group, Lincoln ANGB, Nebraska
11. July 2002 - January 2005, Commander, Detachment 1, Headquarters, Nebraska Air National Guard, Offutt AFB, Nebraska
12. January 2005 - July 2007, Commander, 170th Operations Support Squadron, Offutt AFB, Nebraska
13. April 2005 - July 2005, Director, Space and Information Superiority, National Guard Bureau, Arlington, Virginia
14. July 2007 - September 2007, Commander, 170th Group, Offutt AFB, Nebraska
15. September 2007 - Present, Commander, 155th Air Refueling Wing, Lincoln, ANGB, Nebraska

OTHER ACHIEVEMENTS

1984 Distinguished Graduate, ANG Academy of Military Science
1985 Distinguished Graduate and recipient of the ATC Commander's and Ira Husik Memorial Trophies, Undergraduate Navigator Training; Top Gun Award, USAF Tactical Navigation Training
1993 Distinguished Graduate, KC-135R combat crew training; member of first all Distinguished Graduate Crew
2002 National Guard Association of Nebraska Meritorious Service Award
2005 President of the National Guard Association of Nebraska

FLIGHT INFORMATION

Rating: Master Navigator
Flight Hours: Over 3,300
Aircraft Flown: T-37B, T-43A, RF-4C, KC-135R & RC-135V/W

MAJOR AWARDS AND DECORATIONS

Meritorious Service Medal with two oak leaf clusters
Air Medal
Aerial Achievement Medal with one oak leaf cluster
Air Force Commendation Medal with three oak leaf clusters
Air Force Achievement Medal with four oak leaf clusters
Joint Meritorious Unit Award with oak leaf cluster
Air Force Meritorious Unit Award with two oak leaf clusters
Air Force Outstanding Unit Award with six oak leaf clusters
Combat Readiness Medal with seven oak leaf clusters
National Defense Service Medal with service star
Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal with three devices
Kosovo Campaign Medal
Global War on Terrorism Service Medal
Armed Forces Service Medal
Humanitarian Service Medal
Military Outstanding Volunteer Service Medal
Armed Forces Reserve Medal with M and hourglass devices
NATO Medal

EFFECTIVE DATES OF PROMOTION:

Second Lieutenant Oct. 18, 1984
First Lieutenant Oct. 20, 1986
Captain Nov. 1, 1989
Major Jan. 15, 1995
Lieutenant Colonel March 19, 2000
Colonel July 22, 2004

(Current as of September 2007)